Mr. P. V. Raphael.—Yes.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know the source ?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—Enquiries are made. The Panchayat Honorary Visitors have gone and enquired and they have recorded statement to the effect that all facilities of all kinds are given to all sorts of people.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—It was stated that Mr. Chakko, subsequent to the petition, has remarked in the Visitor's Book that the Vaidyasala is conducted properly and all that. May I know whether the petition was inquired into prior to his becoming an Honorary Vistor?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—Yes, prior to his becoming an Honorary Visitor.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know why a statement was not taken from Mr. Chakko who makes allegations against the Vaidyasala and difficulties of patients in approaching him.

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—I answered that there was no particular reason.

Unpassed English knowing hands now on the establishment.

507. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the number of unpassed English knowing hands now on the establishment and having more than 10 years' service to their credit;

(b) what is their present pay and how long they have been getting the same;

(c) whether any such man have been given exemption from the operation of S. O. No. 1 with a view to give them the benefit of the recent reorganisation of pay;

(d) whether representations have not been received from those not so exempted to give them also the same exemption that was granted to a few like them;

(e) how have these petitions been disposed of?

Mr. T. S. Sesha Ayyar.—(a) 181.

(b) 8 on Rs. 15.
24 .. 20.
20 .. 20-25.
32 .. 25-30

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70 .. 25-40.
19 .. 40.
7 .. 40-60.
2 .. 60-80.

The period varies from 4 months to 15 years.

(c) 149 persons have been given exemption.

(d) Yes; from 12 persons.

(e) One of them was ordered to be appointed as typist in the next vacancy; another was granted exemption and the petitions of 3 others were rejected. In the case of the others it was ordered that when vacancies arise each case would be considered on its merits.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—It is stated that here are 181 unpassed hands of which 149 have been given exemption to draw Rs. 25 to 40 and some Rs. 40 to 60. Has the Government any objection to grant some concession to the remaining 32 persons?

Mr. T. S. Sesha Ayyar.—It is already answered that each case will be considered on its own merits when it comes before the Government.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—(e) The petitions of three others were rejected. Were there any charges of incompetancy or any such bad remarks about those whose cases were not favourably considered by the Government?

Mr. T. S. Sesha Ayyar.—Government were not satisfied that exemption should be given at present to those persons.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Are there petitions from two such persons strongly recommended by the District Magistrate pending with the Government?

Mr. T. S. Sesha Ayyar.—Yes.

Kadakkara shaol-deepening.

508. **Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether they have done anything to deepen the Kadakkara shaol;

(b) whether they have considered the proposal that the bed of the backwater in and about Kadakkara might be narrowed by putting up a bund about the middle of the bed and deepening the eastern portion of the bund thereby giving greater velocity and force to the tidal flow of water and lessening the chances of silting;

(c) when the Government propose to undertake the deepening of the channel to avoid inconvenience to the boats plying through the Kadakkara shaol?

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